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Croydon CR0 5DJ (GB). SIEPLE, Christine [DE/GB];
Biomedical Research Consulting Ltd, Leeplace House,
Leeplace, Pulborough RH20 1DF (GB).

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(74) Agent: DAVIES, Jonathan, Mark; Reddie & Grose, 16
Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PL (GB).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CELL-
FACTORS PLC [GB/GB]; Babraham Hall, Babraham,
Cambridge CB2 4AT (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PHILLIPS, Ian
[GB/GB]; Oral Pathology, School of Clinical Den-
tistry, Claremont Crescent, Sheffield S10 2TA (GB).
GANGEMI, Lavinia [IT/GB]; Oral Pathology, School
of Clinical Dentistry, Claremont Crescent, Sheffield S10
2TA (GB). KIBRIA, Mohamed, Kiron [IN/GB]; Oral
Pathology, School of Clinical Dentistry, Claremont Cres-
cent, Sheffield S10 2TA (GB). STRINGER, Bradley
[AU/GB]; Oral Pathology, School of Clinical Dentistry,
Claremont Crescent, Sheffield S10 2TA (GB). WEST,
William [GB/GB]; Cellfactors Plc, Imperial House, Im-
perial Science Park, Imperial Way, Newport NP10 8UH
(GB). PANDYA, Anant [GB/GB]; 35 Grimwade Avenue,

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(54) Title: IRRADIATED OSTEOINDUCTIVE EXTRACELLULAR MATERIAL

(57) Abstract: Extracellular material obtained from skeletal cells may be used in the stimulation of new bone production. The active extracellular material may be derived from cultures of immortalised hypertrophic chondrocyte-like cells. The invention provides a method for producing osseoinductive extracellular material from skeletal cells which method comprises or consists of the steps of: (1) culturing skeletal cells in a suitable culture medium; (2) harvesting extracellular material produced by said cultured cells; and optionally isolating and/or purifying said harvested material; (3) lyophilizing said material; and (4) irradiating said material with gamma radiation. The invention also provides a method of treating of patient (human or other animal) requiring bone repair/regeneration, which involves administering to said patient an osseoinductive amount of said material.



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